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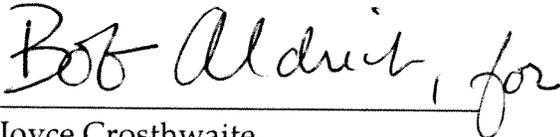
**JOYCE CROSTHWAITE**  
Executive Officer

**DATE:** October 24, 2006  
**TO:** All Interested Parties  
**FROM:** Joyce Crosthwaite, Executive Officer  
**SUBJECT:** West Santa Ana Heights Annexation to City of Newport Beach (RO 06-25) and Banning Ranch Sphere of Influence Change (SOI 06-20)

The applications to consider the West Santa Heights Annexation to the City of Newport Beach (RO 06-25) and the Sphere of Influence change for Banning Ranch (SOI 06-20) are scheduled for LAFCO consideration on Wednesday, November 8, 2006, at 9 a.m. in the Orange County Hall of Administration, Planning Commission Hearing Room. Accordingly, we are required to provide the enclosed notice (Attachment 1).

However, please be advised that the Cities of Newport Beach and Costa Mesa have submitted a joint request to LAFCO for a continuance of both of these projects (Attachment 2). If the request is approved by LAFCO, we want you to be aware that *the November 8, 2006 hearing on these items may be continued to a future date.*

If you are interested in attending the LAFCO hearing on these items, please call the LAFCO offices at (714) 834-2556 prior to November 8, 2006, and we will provide you with the latest information available regarding the hearing date for these projects.

  
Joyce Crosthwaite

Enclosures (2)

## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

### **LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the Local Agency Formation Commission of Orange County (LAFCO) to consider the following proposals:

- (1) A Sphere of Influence (SOI) change and concurrent annexation of West Santa Ana Heights to the City of Newport Beach (RO 06-25); and,
- (2) A Sphere of Influence (SOI) change for Banning Ranch from the City of Newport Beach to the City of Costa Mesa (SOI 06-20).

The hearings will be held on Wednesday, November 8, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. at the Orange County Hall of Administration, 10 Civic Center Plaza, Planning Commission Hearing Room, Santa Ana, CA 92701.

On the basis of Initial Studies prepared for the projects, it was concluded that the projects will not have a significant effect on the environment, and a Categorical Exemption or Negative Declaration have been prepared for each of the named projects.

At the hearing, the Commission will consider oral and written testimony by any interested person or affected agency and the report of the Executive Officer. The proposal file, along with copies of the environmental determinations, may be examined at 12 Civic Center Plaza, Room 235, Santa Ana, CA 92701. For more information, please call Bob Aldrich, Assistant Executive Officer, at (714) 834-2556.

JOYCE CROSTHWAITE  
Executive Officer

Dated: October 18, 2006



City of Newport Beach  
City of Costa Mesa



October 23, 2006

Ms. Joyce Crosthwaite  
Executive Officer, Orange County LAFCO  
12 Civic Center Plaza, Room 235  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Dear Ms. Crosthwaite:

At your Commission's July 2006 hearing, your Commission asked that our two cities participate in a facilitated discussion about the remaining unincorporated islands between Newport Beach and Costa Mesa. We appreciated the participation of Commissioners Silva, Schafer, and Herzog in this effort, as well as the commitment of LAFCO staff and the work of Sharon Browning.

As you know, Ms. Browning did not see an outcome to those discussions that could occur given a goal of a comprehensive and consensus-based solution to our annexation questions.

Since that time, our city staffs have met in person and have exchanged some documents and ideas about how to proceed forward. There may be a favorable outcome in these talks, especially when the elected officials get involved at a later date. But we think that it is too soon to return to LAFCO in time for your November 2006 meeting.

We respectfully request that the Commission allow us to get through the upcoming elections, meet again, and return back to you within six months (May of 2007). We will be happy to direct our staffs to report back to you at the half-way point (February 2007) with an update on our progress, if any.

We thank you for your consideration of this matter and look forward to working with the Commission in the months ahead.

Sincerely,

ALLAN MANSOOR  
Mayor of Costa Mesa

DON WEBB  
Mayor of Newport Beach

cc: Members of the Newport Beach City Council  
Members of the Costa Mesa City Council  
Supervisor Jim Silva